Independent Schools Examinations Board

COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION AT 13+

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

SYLLABUS A

Wednesday 5 June 2013

Please read this information before the examination starts.

- You should answer **one** question from Section 1 and **one** question from Section 2.
- If you have previously submitted coursework, your examination is 40 minutes long and you do **not** do Section 3.
- If you have not previously submitted coursework, you should also answer **three** questions from Section 3. Your examination is 60 minutes long.
- Answer each section on a separate piece of paper.
- Handwriting and presentation are important.

28313335

© Independent Schools Examinations Board

SECTION 1: INTERPRETING THE OLD TESTAMENT

Answer ONE question from this section.

Use a new piece of paper for this section.

God, Human Nature and Covenant

1. The Fall

(a) What is justice? (2)

(b) Describe the punishments for the first sin. (6)

(c) Explain what this story teaches about human nature. (6)

(d) 'All sins deserve punishment.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

2. The Ten Commandments

(a) What does worship mean? (2)

(b) Describe what happened when Moses went up Mount Sinai. (6)

(c) Explain what the Ten Commandments teach about worship. (6)

(d) 'It is right to break a rule if the rule causes more harm than good.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

Leaders and Prophets of the Old Testament

3. Moses

(a) What does Exodus mean? (2)

(b) Outline Moses' encounter with God at the Burning Bush. (6)

(c) Explain what this story teaches about Moses as a leader. (6)

(d) 'Only leaders who honour God can be great.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

4. Isaiah

(a) What is a prophet? (2)

(b) Outline Isaiah's teaching (Isaiah 1: 10–20). (6)

(c) Explain Isaiah's teaching on worship. (6)

(d) 'It is not words that matter, but deeds.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

(Total marks for this section: 21)

SECTION 2: INTERPRETING THE NEW TESTAMENT

Answer ONE question from this section.

Use a new piece of paper for this section.

Jesus' Teaching

1. The Calming of the Storm

(a) What is faith? (2)

(b) Outline the story of the Calming of the Storm. (6)

(c) Explain what the story teaches about discipleship. (6)

(d) 'Science cannot disprove miracles.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

2. The Lost Son

(a) What is sin? (2)

(b) Outline the Parable of the Lost Son. (6)

(c) Explain what the parable teaches about human forgiveness and God's forgiveness. (6)

(d) 'Drug addicts deserve help, not punishment.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

Jesus' Life, Death and Resurrection

3. The Transfiguration

(a) What does Son of God mean? (2)

(b) Outline the story of the Transfiguration. (6)

(c) Explain what the story teaches about Jesus. (6)

(d) 'Jesus was more than a prophet.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

4. The Sentence and Crucifixion

(a) What is sacrifice? (2)

(b) Describe how Jesus was treated by the crowds and soldiers at his trial. (6)

(c) Explain why Jesus was crucified. (6)

(d) 'There are no causes worth dying for today.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

(Total marks for this section: 21)

SECTION 3: WORLD RELIGIONS AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Do not answer this section if you have submitted coursework.

Answer THREE questions.

Use a new piece of paper for this section.

Contemporary Issues

1. Outline Mother Teresa's work with the poor. (6)

2. Explain why Britain has anti-discrimination laws. (6)

3. Outline Christian teaching on life after death. (6)

4. Explain, with three examples, what is meant by human rights. (6)

5. Outline the arguments for and against eating animals. (6)

Christianity

6. Outline three main Christian beliefs. (6)

7. Describe and explain the symbols used at baptism. (6)

8. Outline different ways in which Christians pray. (6)

9. Explain why Holy Communion is important for Christians. (6)

10. Describe how Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. (6)

Judaism

11. Outline the Jewish teaching on the Messiah and the world to come. (6)

12. Describe and explain the purpose of the mezuzah in the Jewish home. (6)

13. Describe Sabbath worship in the home. (6)

14. What happens at a typical Jewish funeral? (6)

15. Outline the questions from the youngest person, eating of matzos and the four cups of wine at Passover (Pesach). (6)

Islam

16. Describe Muslim beliefs about prophets and angels. (6)

17. Describe how Muslims perform Salah. (6)

18. Explain the purpose of the minaret, minbar and mihrab. (6)

19. Describe Muslim practices after the birth of a child. (6)

20. Describe the Muslim festival of Id-ul-Fitr. (6)

Hinduism

21. Outline Hindu teaching on atman and samsara. (6)

22. Explain the relationship between caste and dharma. (6)

23. Describe the sacred thread ceremony. (6)

24. Describe worship (puja) at home. (6)

25. Describe EITHER Vishnu OR Shiva. (6)

Buddhism

26. Describe how Siddhartha became enlightened after he was abandoned by his five companions. (6)

27. Explain the Buddhist teaching on nirvana. (6)

28. Outline the main teaching and practices of Mahayana Buddhism. (6)

29. Describe and explain three Buddhist symbols. (6)

30. What happens at the Buddhist festival of Wesak? (6)

Sikhism

31. Describe the events of Vaisakhi in 1699 CE. (6)

32. Outline Sikh teaching on the gurus. (6)

33. Describe the features of a typical gurdwara. (6)

34. Describe how Sikhs celebrate Diwali. (6)

35. Describe what Sikhs do when a person dies. (6)

(Total marks for this section: 18)

(Total marks: 60, or 42 if you have submitted coursework)